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September 21, 2015

Docket No. L-00000YY-15-0318-00171

Arizona Power Plant and Transmission Line Siting Committee
Arizona Corporation Commission
1200 W. Washington
Phoenix, AZ 85007-2996

Arizona Corporation Commission
DOCKETED

SEP 22 2015

Subject: **Local Transmission and Use Instead of SunZia**



SunZia touts four main benefits: more power; access to renewables; increased transmission reliability; and, jobs. Considering these benefits, why not local transmission and use instead of SunZia? Attached is a BLM map that shows the Obama-expedited SunZia plan, and solar and wind resources. To show a local plan, I modified that map by crossing out SunZia and by adding the arrows and cities.

First, let's consider the benefit of more power: Arizona exports about one third of the electricity it generates, so it doesn't need SunZia's power.

Second benefit, access to renewables: The Arizona portion of SunZia accesses a distant solar patch, surrounding a proposed gas power plant that would use a third of SunZia's capacity. The local plan accesses abundant solar resources close to Phoenix, Tucson, and the Pinal Substation, where spent farmland is ideal for planting solar collectors.

Third benefit, increased transmission reliability: You don't increase transmission reliability by running 500-mile transmission lines from completely unreliable wind-energy sources. And you don't do it by running those lines through an extremely challenging and insecure environment. You increase reliability with the local plan of short-distance lines, over flat terrain, from reliable solar sources.

Fourth benefit, jobs: With SunZia, Arizona gets a few line-construction jobs. With the local plan it gets a solar industry, drawing from the resources and workforces of Tucson and Phoenix.

Along with the advertised benefits, some have claimed that SunZia could be used to export Arizona's solar energy eastward. But SunZia has specified westward transmission only. More importantly, it's premature to plan the exportation of a product that remains undeveloped. Arizona has to walk before it can run with its solar power, and by generating less than one percent of its electricity from solar, Arizona is just starting to crawl.

SunZia should not be built. Arizona should go local instead.

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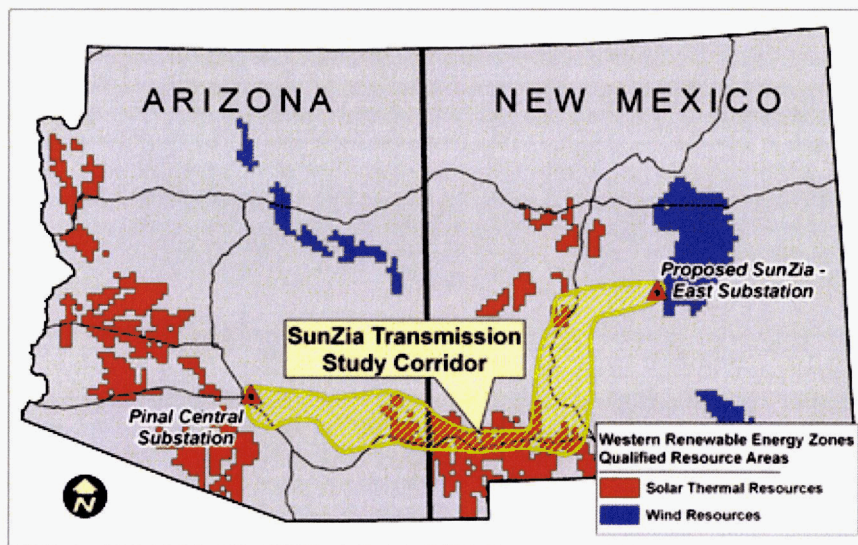
Attached: Single page displaying maps and cited references.

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“SunZia Line Earns Obama Recognition”

“SunZia ... selected to undergo a fast-track permitting process by the federal government.” [1]

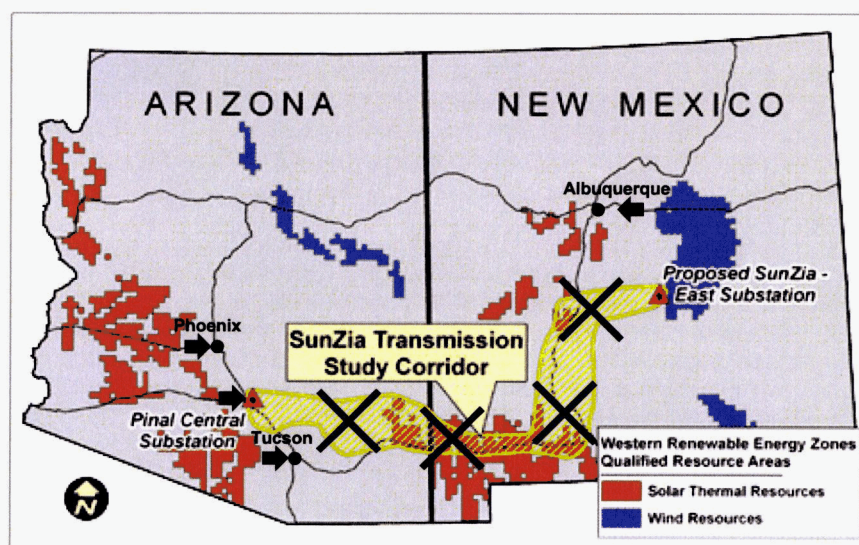
SunZia-Obama Plan [2]:



Why Not Local Transmission and Use Instead of SunZia?

Less than 1% of Arizona’s electricity is solar generated, and only 5% of New Mexico’s electricity is wind generated. [3]

Non-Political Local Plan:



1. <http://www.sn1.com/InteractiveX/ArticleAbstract.aspx?id=13414962>
2. http://www.blm.gov/pgdata/etc/medialib/blm/nm/programs/more/lands_and_realty/sunzia/sunzia_maps.Par.41410.File.dat/WREZ-sunzia-corridor-map.pdf
3. <http://www.eia.gov/>

- This page is attached to Sjogren’s 21 September 2015 letter to the Line Siting Committee, AZCC. -

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